

Pennsylvania Subpart A -Engineering Activities
Affecting Utilities

PART PA503 -SAFETY

PENNSYLVANIA SUBPART A -ENGINEERING ACTIVITIES
AFFECTING UTILITIES

PA503.04 (2)

PA503.04 BURIED UTILITIES

(a) The Service has responsibilities for preventing damage to public and private utilities and for protecting equipment operators and other personnel during investigation or construction activities related to NRCS programs. Pennsylvania Act 287 of 1974 as amended by Act 199 (2004) (Exhibit 1) places specific responsibilities on NRCS personnel as the designers of conservation practices requiring excavation when underground utilities are involved.

(b) It is Service policy to:

(1) Take precautions to minimize hazards from, or damage to, all utilities, both overhead and underground, during location, investigation, design, and construction of any works carried out with NRCS assistance.

(2) To comply with PA Act 287 of 1974 as amended by Act 199 (2004), Laws of Pennsylvania, signed November 30, 2004, and future amendments and replacements.

(3) To utilize a one-call system, as prescribed by section 4 of the Act.

(c) For each designed conservation practice or relocation of a practice which involves excavation:

(1) Request the position and type of all existing lines or the absence thereof from each facility owner (utility) through the one-call system serving the location of the practices, not less than ten days nor more than ninety working days before final design is to be completed. However, if more than 90 days, state that such work is preliminary.

(more)

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(2) Show on the design drawing the position and type of each facility owner's line, derived pursuant to the request made, and the name of the facility owner, the address and telephone number, the date when check was made, the toll free number (1-800-242-1776) of the one-call system, and the serial number assigned to the request by the facility owner (utility) or one-call system.

{3} Place this statement or similar statement on the drawings: "It is the duty of contractors to comply with provisions of The PA One-Call Utility Check to comply with PA Act 287(1974) as amended by Act 199 (2004) before performing any excavation work."

(4) Make a reasonable effort to prepare design drawings to avoid damage to and minimize interference with a facility owner's facilities in the construction area by maintaining an eighteen-inch (18") clearance of the utility.

(d) Section 2(5) (vi) of the Act prescribes a color code for facility owners to use in marking the approximate position of underground utilities in the field.

(e) Section 5(11) of the Act requires that "a contractor shall use the color white to mark a proposed excavation site when exact site information cannot be provided."